MR. RAMADAS (Hiriyur Taluk).—

Q.—41. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) If they are aware of the complaints made to Government and its officers *re.* the breach of Maskal big tank by the Assistant Engineer, Amildar, Police Inspector, Sub-Inspector, Sub-Overseer, Revenue Inspector and other officers of the Hiriyur Taluk and other acts in connection therewith?

(*b*) Whether the matter has been brought to the notice of Government? If so, when and how?

(*c*) Whether arrangements have been made to find out the defaulters?

(*d*) If so, what is the result?

(*e*) Who is responsible for the breach of the tank causing thereby loss to the raiyats and cattle?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT.—

A.—41. (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. A telegram and a petition were received by Government in November 1928 and February 1929 respectively.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The accused persons are stated to have been charged by the 2nd Class Magistrate, Chitaldrug, in the criminal cases brought against them under Sections 430, 431 and 432, Indian Penal Code.

(*e*) The tank has not been breached. The waste weir had been unauthorisedly raised by the raiyats to store more water. This is reported to have been lowered about the 4th November 1928 after the spot was inspected by the Assistant Engineer with a view to save the standing crop and the inundation of roads and lands in the vicinity. The Amildar reports that there could be no loss to the raiyats as the result of action taken by the local officers as the tank is not intended to irrigate the lands which have been transferred to the atchkat of the Vani Vilas Sagara and irrigated by its channels.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. Ramadas.—

With reference to the answer to section (*b*) of the question, will the Government be pleased to state who

were the persons responsible for the breach of the Maskal tank?

Mr. P. G. D'Souza.—

The accused persons are stated to have been charged by the Second Class Magistrate, Chitaldrug, in the criminal cases brought against them. When the case is under trial, it is not desirable to hold any inquiry in the matter now.

Mr. Ramdas.—

Will the Government be pleased to state who were the officers at fault and what action is possible against them?

Second Member of Council.—

There are the Law Courts. You are welcome to take action there. Government cannot allow their officers to be prosecuted unless they are satisfied that they are at fault. Government cannot answer such questions at this stage.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS—(*Concld.*)

MR. VENKATAPPA said that there was no objection to showing a deficit budget but showing a surplus budget with moneys taken from the reserves was open to objection. In spite of the enhancement of the revenues of the State, Government did not set apart the rebate from subsidy for the primary education as resolved upon by the Assembly last year. He regretted that Government did not effect retrenchment in expenditure under service heads as suggested by the Assembly. He thought that the posts of the District Economic Superintendents who were not doing any important work should be abolished and the savings utilized for improving the pay and prospects of primary schoolmasters. He was not in favour of enhancing the fees in the University as such a step would seriously handicap poor students of the non-Brahmin communities in prosecuting higher studies.

He was sorry that in spite of the promise made by the Third Member of Council that the question of making the vernacular as the medium of instruction would be favourably considered, no action was taken so far.

THE THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that what he said was that there would be difficulty in the case of